

Marking and next steps

Secondary learners revising English foundations independently or with a teacher

Keep this guide separate from the student pages. Accept equivalent correct wording and methods. Discuss the reasoning before repeating a task.

1. Each question is worth 1 point. The starting check and exit check are each out of 5; each of the three practice pages is also out of 5.
2. For sentence answers, award the point when the required grammar and intended meaning are correct. Accept the equivalent full or contracted forms identified in the answer key.
3. Do not deduct for an unrelated minor spelling error that does not change the tested verb or meaning. Capital letters and final punctuation should be corrected as feedback, not used as additional scoring criteria.
4. Record the specific missed skill and the help provided. Do not turn the total into a proficiency level or a pass/fail threshold.

The starting and exit checks are different practice sets, not calibrated parallel tests. Compare specific skills and the support needed rather than treating the score difference as a standardized learning measure. No named teacher or institution has certified these materials.

G01 - G04

Answers with explanations

G01 • Starting check

Choose: My cousins ___ ready for the school trip.

Answer: are

My cousins is a plural subject, so it takes are. Am goes with I; is goes with a singular third-person subject.

Skill: Present be: subject agreement

G02 • Starting check

Choose: Every afternoon, Sami ___ his younger brother with homework.

Answer: helps

Every afternoon describes a routine. In the present simple, the singular subject Sami takes helps.

Skill: Present simple: third-person singular

G03 • Starting check

Change this sentence to the negative: We watched a film yesterday.

Answer: We did not watch a film yesterday. Also accept: We didn't watch a film yesterday.

A past-simple negative uses did not plus the base verb watch. The past meaning is carried by did, so watched becomes watch.

Skill: Past simple: negative with did not

G04 • Starting check

Arrange all the words into a question: does / your / start / class / when

Answer: When does your class start?

A present-simple question uses question word + does + singular subject + base verb. Start remains in its base form after does.

Skill: Present simple: question word order

G05 - G08

Answers with explanations

G05 · Starting check

Choose: Huda took a jacket ___ the room was cold.

Answer: because

The cold room gives the reason for taking a jacket. Because introduces a reason; but introduces a contrast.

Skill: Connecting ideas: reason

G06 · Present forms

Choose: The instructions ___ on the first page.

Answer: are

Instructions is plural, so the correct present form of be is are.

Skill: Present be: subject agreement

G07 · Present forms

Choose: I ___ interested in the science project.

Answer: am

The subject I takes am in the present tense.

Skill: Present be: subject agreement

G08 · Present forms

Correct the verb and write the complete sentence: Rawan play basketball every Thursday.

Answer: Rawan plays basketball every Thursday.

Rawan is a singular third-person subject, so the routine takes plays rather than play.

Skill: Present simple: third-person singular

G09 - G12

Answers with explanations

G09 · Present forms

Choose: My brothers ___ their bags before they leave.

Answer: check

My brothers is plural, so its present-simple verb is the base form check.

Skill: Present simple: plural subject

G10 · Present forms

Change this sentence to the negative: Nasser uses the lift every day.

Answer: Nasser does not use the lift every day. Also accept: Nasser doesn't use the lift every day.

A singular third-person subject uses does not followed by the base form use. Uses must not follow does not.

Skill: Present simple: negative with does not

G11 · Past events

Choose: Yesterday, Aisha ___ her grandmother.

Answer: visited

Yesterday marks a completed past event. Visited is the past form of visit.

Skill: Past simple: regular affirmative

G12 · Past events

Choose: Last Saturday, we ___ to the new library.

Answer: went

Last Saturday is in the past. Go has the irregular past form went.

Skill: Past simple: irregular affirmative

G13 - G16

Answers with explanations

G13 · Past events

Change this sentence to the negative: They finished the poster before lunch.

Answer: They did not finish the poster before lunch. Also accept: They didn't finish the poster before lunch.

Use did not with the base verb finish, not finished.

Skill: Past simple: negative with did not

G14 · Past events

Correct the verb after didn't: I didn't bought a ticket yesterday.

Answer: I didn't buy a ticket yesterday. Also accept: I did not buy a ticket yesterday.

Did already marks the past. The verb after didn't must be the base form buy, not the past form bought.

Skill: Past simple: base verb after did not

G15 · Past events

Rewrite this sentence using Yesterday instead of Every day: Every day, Salma walks to the sports centre.

Answer: Yesterday, Salma walked to the sports centre. Also accept: Salma walked to the sports centre yesterday.

The new time expression changes a routine into a completed past event, so walks becomes walked.

Skill: Past simple: change from routine to past

G16 · Questions and connections

Arrange all the words into a question: does / where / work / your / aunt

Answer: Where does your aunt work?

The order is question word, does, subject, base verb. Your aunt is singular, so does is appropriate.

Skill: Present simple: question word order

G17 - G20

Answers with explanations

G17 · Questions and connections

Arrange all the words into a question: did / leave / when / they

Answer: When did they leave?

A past question uses did before the subject and the base verb leave after it.

Skill: Past simple: question word order

G18 · Questions and connections

Make a yes/no question from this sentence: The computer is ready.

Answer: Is the computer ready?

With be, move is before the subject. Do not add do or does.

Skill: Present be: question word order

G19 · Questions and connections

Choose: The task was difficult, ____ Maha finished it on time.

Answer: but

Finishing on time contrasts with the possible difficulty caused by a hard task. But connects that contrast.

Skill: Connecting ideas: contrast

G20 · Questions and connections

Join these ideas in one sentence using because: Faisal saved his work. He wanted to keep his changes.

Answer: Faisal saved his work because he wanted to keep his changes. Also accept: Because he wanted to keep his changes, Faisal saved his work.

Wanting to keep his changes is the reason for saving. Because introduces that reason. Either clause order is acceptable when the meaning remains clear.

Skill: Connecting ideas: reason

G21 - G24

Answers with explanations

G21 • Exit check

Choose: The new students ___ in the hall.

Answer: are

The new students is plural, so it takes are. This checks the same subject-agreement skill as G01 in a new context.

Skill: Present be: subject agreement

G22 • Exit check

Choose: Every morning, the caretaker ___ the front door.

Answer: opens

The caretaker is singular and every morning describes a routine, so the verb is opens. This matches the skill in G02.

Skill: Present simple: third-person singular

G23 • Exit check

Change this sentence to the negative: We collected the books yesterday.

Answer: We did not collect the books yesterday. Also accept: We didn't collect the books yesterday.

Did not is followed by the base form collect. This checks the same negative-past pattern as G03 with a different verb.

Skill: Past simple: negative with did not

G24 • Exit check

Arrange all the words into a question: does / the / close / shop / when

Answer: When does the shop close?

Use question word + does + singular subject + base verb. This tests the same word-order pattern as G04.

Skill: Present simple: question word order

G25 - G25

Answers with explanations

G25 · Exit check

Choose: The group moved indoors ____ it started to rain.

Answer: because

Rain is the reason for moving indoors, so because is the correct connector. This checks the reason relationship in G05.

Skill: Connecting ideas: reason
